



Invitation to attend the following session during the 2018 Greater Mekong Forum in Yangon (4 – 6 December, Inya Lake hotel).

Smart innovations for better decision-making in Deltas: showcases from Myanmar

Thursday 4th of December, 10.30 - 12.30 (Jade Room)

In the light of climate change and the current challenges in deltas all over the world, policy-makers have the daunting task to make significant decisions about the management and engineering of water systems. Governments face difficult trade-offs and choices related to the development of large structural and non-structural projects (e.g. hydropower dams, industrial development, irrigation schemes, urban water use). Such decisions will have irreversible consequences and costs for economies, cultures and the environment - therefore leaving the policy-makers with a very important task at hand.

In data-scarce countries such as Myanmar, it is vital for policy-makers and other stakeholders to have access to reliable and accurate data. Without such knowledge, one cannot make wise and sustainable decisions. In the project, "Leapfrogging delta management in Myanmar" several Dutch innovators together with Myanmar experts have tested and demonstrated new ways of both remote sensing and ground data collection in combination with modelling. For example measuring wave data, rainfall data, soil moisture, water quality, river bank erosion, sedimentation and subsidence.

In this session we will highlight some of the results as well as showcase the measuring tools that were tested and demonstrated in the projects. These pilots will provide policy-makers and other stakeholders with many inspiring and useful ways to gain access to more data and a better understanding on the impact of certain decisions. This session will break the existing paradigm that data collection is expensive and time-consuming – it can also be done low-cost, reliable, high-tech hence leading to smart decision-making!

Outline of the session, 4th of December 2018 – 10.30 – 12.30 (Jade Room) = 120 minutes

Time	Activity
10.30 – 10.40	Opening and welcome by the moderator of this session, Mrs. Vanh Mixap of WLE
10.40 – 11.00	<p>Opening remarks by DG Htun Lwin Oo - Secretary, <i>National Water Resources Committee and Director General, Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, Ministry of Transport and Communications, The Republic of The Union of Myanmar</i>;</p> <p>Opening remarks by Netherlands Ambassador Wouter Jurgens (tbc)</p> <p>Handing over of the first copy of the booklet "Leapfrogging Delta management in Myanmar".</p>
11.00 – 11.15	Presentation on the measuring campaigns and the results by Project Director Marjan Kreijns, TU Delft
11.15 – 11.30	<p>Panel discussion – moderated by Lindsey Schwidder, project manager water at TU Delft;</p> <p>Panel members (tbc):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Zaw Lwin Tun, deputy DG Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department Fernanda van der Velde, Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO.NL); Yee Mon Thu, PhD student Yangon Technological University (YTU); One representative of the start-up companies;
11.30 – 12.15	<p>Shift & Share</p> <p>Split-up in smaller groups, divided over different corners in the room - short carousel to hear and see the innovations clustered per theme :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remote sensing tools: VanderSat and Skygeo 2. Rainfall: Disdro and FutureWater 3. Rivers & Coasts: Shore monitoring, HKV and Wavedroid 4. Citizen Science tools: Akvo flow and Akvo Caddisfly & Mobile Water Management
12.15 – 12.20	Short reflection by the WLE host, Mrs. Vanh Mixap
12.20 – 12.25	Wrap-up by Marjan Kreijns, TU Delft;
12.25 – 12.30	Closing remarks by Director U Win Hlaing, Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, Ministry of Transport and Communications.

For questions and registering for this session, please contact Lindsey Schwidder
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